

## REMARKS

Applicant has amended the application to further distinguish the claimed invention over the cited prior art of record, to correct the cited informalities, and to place the application, as a whole, into *prima facie* condition for allowance at this time. Applicant submits that substantial care has been taken to avoid the introduction of any new subject matter into the application as a result of the foregoing amendments.

Claims 48-53 and 62 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Lynam ('674) in view of Komatsu ('585), and claims 48-53 and 60-64 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Lynam ('674) in view of Komatsu et al. ('708). Solely for the purpose of expediting prosecution of the present application, and without, in any way, conceding to the Examiner's rejection, Applicant has incorporated the subject matter of claims 54 and 58 into independent claim 48. Inasmuch as the subject matter of claims 54 and/or 58 were acknowledged by the Examiner as allowable if incorporated into the base claim, Applicant respectfully submits that the bases for rejection of independent claim 48 as well as all associated dependent claims have been overcome and reconsideration and withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. §103(a) rejections based upon the above-identified references are respectfully requested.

Claims 58 and 59 have been objected to due to minor informalities. Applicant respectfully submits that all informalities associated with claims 58 and 59 have been remedied in the present Amendment and Communication.

In light of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully submits that the Application is in *prima facie* condition for allowance at the present time. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests consideration of the present application and passage toward issuance thereof.

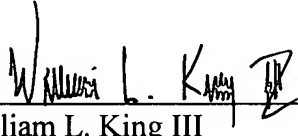
If any other charges or fees must be paid or credited in connection with this communication, they may be paid out of our Deposit Account No. 50-2131.

Should the Examiner have any questions regarding the foregoing, a telephone call to the undersigned is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

KING & JOVANOVIC, PLC

Dated: 4/14/05

  
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